

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Sean Mellino on April 15, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 3, lines 1 and 2, "pressure-sensitive adhesive tape" has been deleted and replaced by --envelope/tow-sided coating--.

In claim 5, lines 1 and 2, "pressure-sensitive adhesive tape" has been deleted and replaced by --envelope/tow-sided coating--.

Claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art of record fails to teach or suggest the recited self-adhesive, flexible sealing tape. The independent claim identify the uniquely distinct features of a substrate that include a flexible self-adhesive core/carrier layer provided with an envelope/two-sided coating comprising an expanded pressure sensitive tape, wherein the envelope completely

Art Unit: 1783

surrounds/encloses the core/carrier layer. The closest prior art of record, Plamthottam et al. (WO 89/00106) in view of Valdez (USPGPub 2004/0219356), disclose different adhesive tapes, which either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render obvious the above limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia L. Nordmeyer whose telephone number is (571)272-1496. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David R. Sample can be reached on (571) 272-1376. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Patricia L. Nordmeyer
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1783

/Patricia L. Nordmeyer/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1783

Application/Control Number: 10/584,226

Page 4

Art Unit: 1783